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LETTER DATED 29 JANUARY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward to you the statement issued on 27 January 1993 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I request that this letter, together with the enclosed statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pak Gil YON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The United States and the south Korean authorities officials announced on 26 January 1993 that they would stage "Team Spirit 93" joint military exercises, an adventurous nuclear war game, on the Korean peninsula.

All the Korean people and the world's peace-loving people can hardly repress towering resentment at the fact that the United States and the south Korean authorities are going to stage the "Team Spirit 93" in defiance of strong protests and opposition from public opinion at home and abroad.

The intention and scheme of the United States and the south Korean authorities to resume the "Team Spirit" assume a grave and dangerous nature quite different from that in the past days.

The cold war structure has collapsed in the international arena and the world is moving towards reconciliation and détente, an agreement on reconciliation and non-aggression has been adopted and effectuated between the north and the south of Korea and the Nuclear Safeguards Accord between our country and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is being implemented smoothly.

At this moment, the United States and the south Korean authorities are going to force the once suspended "Team Spirit" joint military exercises on the pretext of "nuclear arms development" by the north. This is a brigandish act to find an excuse for the continued presence of United States forces in south Korea, totally deny an overall inspection of United States nuclear weapons and bases there, camouflage south Korea's nuclear development, frighten our people with "strength" and stifle the socialist system of our country.

This makes it all the clearer that the strong-arm policy of the United States to establish its domination over the whole of Asia, keeping south Korea tightly in its grip, is entering into a full-dress practical stage on the Korean peninsula.

The resumption of the "Team Spirit" will carry the tensions on the Korean peninsula to extremes, push it to an unpredictable phase and create a new danger to peace in north-east Asia.

The "Team Spirit" is a large-scale nuclear war gamble involving various kinds of nuclear weapons and means, the latest types of military equipment and armed forces deployed in and around south Korea and in the United States mainland, with south Korea as a nuclear forward base.

For the United States and the south Korean authorities to stage the "Team Spirit" is an intolerable mockery of and challenge to the Korean and other peoples of the world.

The whole world knows that the United States and the south Korean authorities last year suspended the "Team Spirit" before the start of the irregular inspection of our country by the IAEA.

It can never be justified on any grounds for the United States to resume the "Team Spirit" manoeuvres under the unreasonable pretext of a "nuclear problem" today when our country is undergoing an inspection by the IAEA and it has been verified that there is no problem at all.

Such a provocative act of the United States and the south Korean authorities proves that the words of the United States authorities that they respect the "will and conscience of the international community" and the utterances of the south Korean authorities that they want "national harmony" are no more than lies and rhetoric for misleading world opinion.

The "Team Spirit" joint manoeuvres that the United States is going to stage with the south Korean authorities against our Republic are a criminal action contradictory to the idea and basic demand of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) which stipulates that a nuclear-weapon State must not present a nuclear threat to a non-nuclear State.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea bitterly denounces "Team Spirit 93", regarding it as a provocative act intended to start a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula and gravely menacing Asian and world peace and security.

The United States and the south Korean authorities have brought to suspension the implementation of the North-South Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, Cooperation and Exchange and the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the north-south high-level talks by staging the "Team Spirit" joint exercises. Worse still, the United States cannot evade the responsibility for having barred us from discharging our obligations under the NPT.

It is a mistake for the United States to think that it can frighten or subjugate our people by military "pressure" or "strength". Ours are a staunch people who regard independence and dignity as their life and soul and a revolutionary people who never cringe before pressure and threat. We will never tolerate any act of infringement upon the dignity of the nation or the sovereignty of the country.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea cannot but take necessary self-defensive measures against the grave situation created on the Korean peninsula by the United States and the south Korean authorities.

Should the United States and the south Korean authorities dare stage the "Team Spirit 93" joint war game, defying our repeated warnings, they will have to bear full responsibility for all the consequences arising therefrom.

The United States must promptly stop the "Team Spirit" manoeuvres, a nuclear war game, looking squarely at the reality and discarding the outdated thinking pattern of the cold war era.

The south Korean authorities must renounce their anti-national act of wrecking peace and blocking reunification in collusion with outside forces.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people express the hope that the Governments and peoples of all countries of the world loving justice and peace will pay deep attention to the grave situation created on the Korean peninsula, take joint action with us against the "Team Spirit" exercises and extend firm solidarity to our people's cause of peace and reunification of the country.